

House Resolution 1490

By: Representatives Scott of the 2nd, Knox of the 24th, Burkhalter of the 50th, Casas of the 103rd, Millar of the 79th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing and honoring the life of William F. Buckley, Jr.; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, our nation has lost one of its greatest defenders in William F. Buckley, Jr.; and
- 3 WHEREAS, when conservatism was a lonely cause, he bravely raised the standard of liberty
4 and led the charge to renew the principles and values that are the foundation of our great
5 country; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the persuasiveness of his affirmation of conservatism hinged on his own tightly
7 argued case for a conservatism based on the national interest and a higher morality; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Mr. Buckley declared war on the liberal order, beginning with his blistering
9 assault on Yale as a traitorous den of atheistic collectivism immediately after he graduated,
10 with honors, from the university; and
- 11 WHEREAS, a man of tremendous vision and big ideas, he founded the *National Review* in
12 1955, at the age of 29, and through its pages and other endeavors, as a lecturer, commentator,
13 debater, syndicated newspaper columnist, author of 55 books ranging from sailing odysseys
14 to spy novels to celebrations of his own dashing daily life, host of the television show
15 "Firing Line" from 1966 until 1999, he inspired many and advanced an intellectual rigor that
16 transformed American politics; and
- 17 WHEREAS, to his great delight, Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., the historian, termed him "the
18 scourge of liberalism"; and
- 19 WHEREAS, he inspired and incited three generations of conservatives, and he retained his
20 intellectual and literary vitality to the end; even in his final years he was capable of the
21 arresting formulation and the unpredictable insight; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Buckley served his country honorably in the U.S. Army during World War
2 II and in the Central Intelligence Agency in the early 1950's; and

3 WHEREAS, before he was a conservative, he was devoted to his family and his church and
4 is survived by his son, Christopher; and

5 WHEREAS, this singular gentleman was a person of magnanimous strengths with an
6 unimpeachable reputation for integrity, intelligence, fairness, and kindness.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
8 the members of this body recognize and honor the life of William F. Buckley, Jr., the father
9 of modern conservatism.